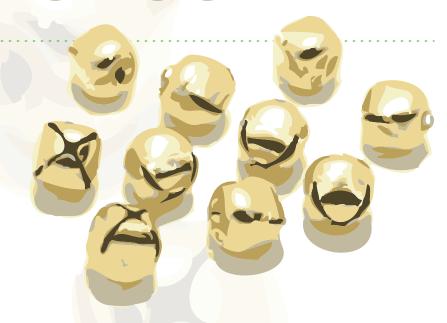
CHOICES from the CHILDREN'S ROOM

Looking for the perfect book for a holiday gift? Our youth librarians suggest their favorite titles of the year!



PICTURE BOOKS

And Then It's Spring by Julie Fogliano Illustrated by Erin E. Stead

A gentle celebration of changing seasons with illustrations by Caldecott-winner Erin E. Stead. *Roaring Brook Press*

The Big Adventure of the Smalls by Helen Stephens

A tiny family lives in a huge house and gets up to some huge mischief! *Alladin*

A Bus Called Heaven by Bob Graham

A little girl and her neighbors transform an abandoned bus into a haven for everyone. *Candlewick Press*

Homer by Elisha Cooper

A delightful celebration of home and man's best friend. *Greenwillow Books*

The Obstinate Pen by Frank W. Dormer

A pen taps into each user's innermost secrets, much to their embarrassment and the reader's enjoyment. *Henry Holt*

One Special Day by Lola Schaefer Illustrated by Jessica Meserve

A wonderful choice for young toddlers and preschoolers about to become big brothers or sisters. *Disney/Hyperion Books*

Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons by Eric Litwin Illustrated by James Dean

Sing along as Pete's buttons pop off one by one. Harper Press

Red Car, Red Bus by Susan Steggall

Transportation-obsessed kids will find a lot to look at in this simple, stylish story. Frances Lincoln Children's Books

Squid and Octopus: Friends for Always by Tao Nyeu

Funny, sweet stories about undersea companionship, with detailed illustrations worth poring over. *Dial Press*

Waterloo &Trafalgar by Olivier Tallec

Another gem from Monsieur Tallec, the maestro! Enchanted Lion Books



BEGINNING READERS

Bake, Mice, Bake! by Eric Seltzer Illustrated by Natascha Rosenberg

Busy mice make sweet treats for a variety of customers. A satisfying read for beginners. *Penguin Young Readers*

Bink & Gollie, Two for One by Kate DiCamillo and Alison McGhee

Illustrated by Tony Fucile

Everybody's favorite BFF's are at it again! Candlewick Press

Penny and Her Doll by Kevin Henkes

In her second outing, Penny gets a new doll and must choose a name for her. *Greenwillow Books*

Pinch and Dash Make Soup by Michael J. Daley Illustrated by Thomas F. Yezerski

Two friends try to outshine each other in the kitchen, resulting in a compromise. *Charlesbridge*

The Shark King by R. Kikuo Johnson

Based on Hawaiian folklore, this graphic novel tells of the Shark King's brave and powerful son. *Toon Books*

A Trip to the Bottom of the World with Mouse by Frank Viva

A boy and his best friend explore the icy reaches of the Antarctic in this stunning graphic novel. *Toon Books*

Up! Tall! and High! by Ethan Long

Three laugh-out-loud stories follow friends as they discover who can go high, who is tall, and who is up. *G.P. Putnam's Sons*

FOLK/FAIRYTALES

Fairy Tales of Charles Perrault Illustrated by Harry Clarke

A beautiful compilation featuring Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty, Little Red Riding Hood, and other favorites. Calla Editions

Fox Tails: Four Fables from Aesop by Amy Lowry

Four foxy fables are combined into one sneaky tale.

Holiday House Books

Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs retold by Mo Willems

Three dinosaurs are substituted for a laugh-out-loud retelling of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Balzer + Bray

Giants Beware! by Jorge Aguirre Illustrated by Rafael Rosado

What's a young giant slayer to do when there are no giants around? A hilarious, epic adventure. First Second Books

The Gingerbread Man by Béatrice Rodriguez

This retelling features the cutest, sassiest gingerbread man ever and a recipe to make your own. *NorthSouth Books*

Huff and Puff by Claudia Rueda

Help the wolf blow the house down in this interactive retelling of the *Three Little Pigs. Abrams Books*

The Three Little Pigs by Bernadette Watts

A classic retelling with a soft and gentle ending. NorthSouth Books

FICTION

A Boy and a Bear in a Boat by Dave Shelton

They have a suitcase, a comic book, and a ukulele—should be smooth sailing. *David Fickling Books*

Cold Cereal by Adam Rex

Your typical smart kids vs. vil-cereal-company-intent-onworld-domination story... *Balzer + Bray*

Cow Boy: A Boy and His Horse by Nate Crosby Illustrated by Chris Eliopoulos

A tiny bounty hunter and his trusty toy horse bring poignancy and charm to hard livin' in the old west.

Archaia Entertainment

A Greyhound of a Girl by Roddy Doyle

Short but sweet, this comforting ghost story introduces readers to four generations of Dublin women. *Amulet Books*

Horten's Miraculous Mechanisms: Magic, Mystery and a Very Strange Adventure by Lissa Evans

Stuart deciphers clues to solve the disappearance of his magician uncle, and locate his lost workshop.

Sterling Children's Books

The Legend of Diamond Lil by Doreen Cronin Illustrated by Kevin Cornell

Nothing is getting past J.J. Tully this time, not even the new neighbor... *Balzer + Bray*

Liar & Spy by Rebecca Stead

What does it mean to tell the truth? What does it mean to be a friend? Wendy Lamb Books

Mr. and Mrs. Bunny—Detectives Extraordinaire! by Mrs. Bunny

Translated from the Rabbit by Polly Horvath Illustrated by Sophie Blackall

Unfortunately, Madeline's parents are abducted by foxes. Fortunately, Mr. and Mrs. Bunny are on the case. Schwartz & Wade

Sadie and Ratz by Sonia Hartnett **Illustrated** by Ann James

Hannah's a good girl, but her hands, Sadie and Ratz, don't always want to behave. *Candlewick Press*

NONFICTION

Bomb: The Race to Build—and Steal—the World's Most Dangerous Weapon by Steve Sheinkin

This true story of danger, spies, and secrets would change the world forever. *Flash Point*

Eight Days Gone by Linda McReynolds Illustrated by Ryan O'Rourke

A simple, sophisticated story of the first moon landing. Great for future astronauts and poets. *Charlesbridge*

The Fairy House Handbook by Liza Gardner Walsh

Everything you need to craft your own magical fairy wonderland. Includes inspiring, whimsical photos!

Down East Books

Invincible Microbe: Tuberculosis and the Never-Ending Search for a Cure by Jim Murphy and Alison Blank

Infectious diseases have never been so engaging—an offbeat and welcome gift for a budding scientist. *Clarion Books*

It Jes' Happened: When Bill Traylor Started to Draw by Don Tate. Illustrated R. Gregory Christie

Perfect marriage of a great story and gorgeous illustrations! Lee & Low Books

Just Ducks! by Nicola Davies Illustrations by Salvatore Rubbino

The title says it all! Just ducks! Candlewick Press

Looking at Lincoln by Maria Kalman

A captivating peek into Abraham Lincoln's life through illustration and anecdotes. *Nancy Paulsen Books*

You Are Stardust by Elin Kelsey Illustrated by Soyeon Kim

Poetic text and surreal dioramas demonstrate the links between the human body to the natural world. *Owlkids*

POETRY

Con el Sol en los Ojos/With the Sun in My Eyes by Jorge Lujan Illustrated by Morteza Zahedi

Lujan follows *Doggie Slippers* with another must have for your personal poetry collection! *Groundwood Books / House of Anansi Press*

Edgar Allan Poe's Pie: Math Puzzlers in Classic Poems by J. Patrick Lewis

Illustrated by Michael Slack

Math themed, mind boggling, poetically charged riddles! Time-honored poems transformed to challenge the mathematical mind. *Houghton Mifflin Harcourt*

Forget-me-nots: Poems to Learn by Heart selected by Mary Ann Hoberman

Illustrated by Michael Emberley

A collection of poems so good, readers won't be able to keep them to themselves! Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

Forgive Me, I Meant to Do It: False Apology Poems by Gail Carson Levine

Illustrated by Matthew Cordell

Being forced to say you're sorry when you're not is a drag. HarperCollins

Outside Your Window by Nicola Davies Illustrated by Mark Hearld

Poems and art that illustrate the beauty of the world around us, all year long. *Candlewick Press*

A Stick is an Excellent Thing: Poems Celebrating Outdoor Play by Marilyn Singer

Illustrated by LeUyen Pham

Energetic verse and joyful pictures illuminate the virtues of active play. *Clarion Books*

Water Sings Blue: Ocean Poems by Kate Coombs Illustrated by Meilo So

Even in winter this slim volume will take you right back to the summer beach. *Chronicle Books*

TEENS

Amelia Anne is Dead and Gone by Kat Rosenfield

Becca is ready to leave town, but an unknown murdered body causes her to reassess her life. *Dutton*

Bitterblue by Kristin Cashore

Queen Bitterblue deals with mysteries, rebellion, truth, and lies in her kingdom and in her personal life. *Dial*

Burn for Burn by Jenny Han and Siobhan Vivian

Three scorned girls hatch a revenge plot to end all revenge plots. Hell hath no fury... Simon & Schuster

The Fault in Our Stars by John Green

A funny, heart-breaking coming-of-age story. Dutton

The Mighty Alice: A Cul de Sac Collection by Richard Thompson

This collection features one of our favorite comic strip characters.

Andrews McMeel Publishing

Mothership by Martin Leicht and Isla Neal

Aboard earth-orbiting Hanover School for Expecting Teen Mothers, Elvie faces a sinister alien plot, the head cheerleader, and the jerk who knocked them both up. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

Pink Smog: Becoming Weetzie Bat by Francesca Lia BlockBefore Weetzie was a glitter-punk L.A. fairytale star of the
Dangerous Angels series, she was Louise. HarperTeen

Sons of the 613 by Michael Rubens

Two weeks before Isaac's bar mitzvah, he and his brother get closer—and partially destroy the house. Madcap and poignant. Clarion Books

The Year of the Beasts by Cecil Castellucci and Nate Powell

A powerful fable of love, heartbreak, and loss told in alternating text and comics format. *Roaring Brook Press*